



AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

BIOGRAPHIES

Session 7: Understanding Resilience to TOC: The Roles of Citizens, Communities, and Civil Society

Dr. Gernot Klantschnig is the Senior Lecturer in International Criminology, University of Bristol. He is also Principal Investigator at the Hidden Narratives of Transnational Organized Crime project. He is currently working on an ESRC project on Hidden Narratives on Organised Crime in West Africa, exploring the criminalization of the trade in drugs and migration in Nigeria and Niger. He joined the University of Bristol in 2019, from the University of York, where he was a Senior Lecturer in Social Policy and Crime since 2014. He was previously Associate Professor of International Studies at the University of Nottingham's China campus. He completed his doctorate in Politics at Oxford with a thesis on Nigeria's role in the international trade and control of illegal drugs. This research has been the basis for several books and articles on the politics and history of drugs and crime, policing and healthcare in Africa. His research has also been supported by a variety of funding bodies, such as the British Academy, Chinese government and the World University Network. At York, Gernot also coordinated the MA in Global Crime and Justice and was co-chair of York's research network on crime and criminal justice, CrimNet.

Dr. Klantschnig's current research and publications focus on crime and drugs and their role in broader debates about trade, development, the state and health in Africa, China and globally. At the moment, he works on three related research areas: (1) Pharmaceuticals and their Regulation in the Global South. He has recently completed a project on the politics of 'fake prescription drugs' in Nigeria and a project on China's growing economic and political engagement with Africa in the pharmaceutical sector. He continues working and publishing in this area. (2) Cannabis Africana. With colleagues in Bristol and Cape Town, Gernot is also working towards a modern history of cannabis use, trade and control in Africa, which will culminate in a monograph. An important aspect of this work is an exploration of cannabis's role as an 'illicit livelihood' and its impact on socio-economic development in Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa. (3) Politics of Crime and Drugs. He continues researching and publishing on the politics of illegal drugs, crime and policing in Africa and globally, and in 2017 he co-hosted an international workshop on the Policing of Illicit Flows in West Africa at York. Theoretically, his work in all three areas has been held together by a focus on the role of ideas and policy transfer, 'organised crime', as well as the state and the illicit in the Global South.

Dr. Martha Mutisi is Senior Programme Officer at International Development Research Centre (IDRC) at the Regional Office for Sub-Saharan Africa (ROSSA), in Nairobi, Kenya. Her role is to support and undertake evidence-based research that helps citizens and public authorities address the sources of violent conflict, insecurity, fragility and poor governance, while acknowledging the imperative for a gender-transformative approach to solutions.

Previously, she was the Manager of the Interventions Department at ACCORD. In this position, Martha coordinated strategic and operational plans of the department, apart from providing substantive and technical inputs. Dr. Martha Mutisi provided oversight towards activities within Peacebuilding, Peacemaking, Peacekeeping and Training Units as well as within ACCORD's Country Programmes. Furthermore, she had worked in various capacities and with many organisations on critical issues at the intersections of peace, conflict and development. Her assignments included working with the University for Peace (UPEACE, Africa Program), the University of Zimbabwe-Center for Defence Studies, the Open Society Initiative of Southern Africa (OSISA), the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy (IMTD), among others. Martha's areas of research interests include Peace Agreements, Gender and Peace Processes, Security Sector Reform, Endogenous Methods for Conflict Resolution, Institutions of Peacemaking, Democratisation and Transitional justice.

Moderator

Dr. Catherine Lena Kelly is an associate professor responsible for overseeing the Africa Center's portfolio on justice, rule of law, and governance and integrating these considerations into academic programming, research, and outreach. Her work focuses on citizen security, party politics and democratization, the rule of law and stabilization, and transnational organized crime.

Prior to joining the Africa Center, Dr. Kelly was an advisor at the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, where her work took her to Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. She designed and taught courses on contemporary Africa and democracy as a postdoctoral fellow at Washington University in St. Louis. At the State Department's Foreign Service Institute, Dr. Kelly taught the West Africa course and co-taught the governance and religion modules in the Area Studies course. She has been awarded numerous fellowships and grants, including a Fulbright Fellowship, a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Public Fellowship, a West Africa Research Association grant, several Harvard University grants, and two U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship for the Wolof language and doctoral research in Senegal. Her work has been published extensively in policy and academic journals.

Dr. Kelly holds a Ph.D. and M.A. in government from Harvard University, a Graduate Certificate in international politics (Europe, conflict resolution, and peacebuilding) from the Université Libre de Bruxelles, and a B.A. summa cum laude from Washington University in St. Louis.